

Claims

1. A method of providing closed user group service in a mobile communication system enabling packet-switched data services and comprising at least one network element controlling point to multipoint packet services and at least one group comprising a plurality of group subscribers, the method comprising:

determining for said network element closed user group access conditions for at least one subscriber belonging to the group, said access conditions comprising at least one of the following conditions:

right to send/receive packets to/from parties outside the group,
right to send/receive packets to/from a part of the group substantially simultaneously without communicating with all members of the group,

checking said access conditions in said network element when packets are being sent to/from at least one subscriber, and

transferring packets from said network element to desired addresses if said access conditions allow the transmission.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the addresses that are allowed are determined in said access conditions.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein outgoing and incoming access conditions separately are determined in said access conditions.

4. A method according to claim 1, wherein adjacent packets are transferred without rechecking said access conditions after first packet, in response to the checking of said access conditions of the first packet and the source and the destination addresses in the adjacent packets being the same as in the first packet.

5. A method according to claim 1, wherein a group is selected for the subscriber during the activation of data transfer arrangement for a mobile station of the subscriber, and

the access conditions of the selected group are used when packets to/from the subscriber are being sent until the data transfer arrangement is deactivated or reconfigured.

6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the data transfer arrangement is packet data protocol PDP context.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the used group is identified when data packets are being sent, and the access conditions of the identified group are used for the data packets.

8. A mobile telecommunications system providing packet-switched data services and comprising at least one network element controlling point to multipoint packet services and at least one group comprising a plurality of group subscribers, wherein the network comprises means for determining closed user group access conditions for at least one subscriber belonging to the group, said access conditions comprising at least one of the following conditions:

right to send/receive packets to/from parties outside the group,
right to send/receive packets to/from a part of the group substantially simultaneously without communicating with all members of the group,

said network element is configured to check said access conditions when packets are being sent to/from at least one subscriber and

said network element is configured to transfer packets to desired addresses if said access conditions allow the transmission.

9. A mobile telecommunications system according to claim 8, wherein said access conditions comprise allowed addresses and/or separate conditions for outgoing and incoming packets.

10. A mobile telecommunications system according to claim 8, wherein said network element is configured to transfer adjacent packets

without rechecking said access conditions after first packet, in response to the checking of said access conditions of the first packet and the source and the destination addresses in the adjacent packets being the same as in the first packet.

11. A mobile telecommunications system according to claim 8, wherein said network element is configured to select a group for the subscriber during the activation of data transfer arrangement for a mobile station of the subscriber, and

said network element is configured to use the access conditions of the selected group when packets to/from the subscriber are being sent until the data transfer arrangement is deactivated or reconfigured.

12. A mobile telecommunications system according to claim 11, wherein the data transfer arrangement is packet data protocol PDP context.

13. A mobile telecommunications system according to claim 8, wherein said network element is configured to identify the used group when data packets are being sent, and

said network element is configured to use the access conditions of the identified group for the data packets.

14. A network element controlling point to multipoint packet services in a packet radio system, wherein said network element comprises means for determining access conditions for at least one subscriber belonging to at least one closed user group, said access conditions comprising at least one of the following conditions:

right to send/receive packets to/from parties outside the group,
right to send/receive packets to/from a part of the group substantially simultaneously without communicating with all members of the group,

said network element comprises means for checking said access conditions when packets are being sent to/from at least one subscriber and

said network element is configured to send packets if said access conditions allow the transmission.